

104TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 128

To establish the Thomas Cole National Historic Site in the State of New York, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 4, 1995

Mr. MOYNIHAN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To establish the Thomas Cole National Historic Site in the State of New York, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Thomas Cole National
5 Historic Site Establishment Act of 1995”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

8 (1) the Hudson River school of landscape paint-
9 ing was inspired by Thomas Cole and was character-
10 ized by a group of 19th century landscape artists

1 who recorded and celebrated the landscape and wil-
2 derness of America, particularly in the Hudson
3 River Valley region in the State of New York;

4 (2) Thomas Cole has been recognized as Ameri-
5 ca's most prominent landscape and allegorical paint-
6 er in the mid-19th century;

7 (3) the Thomas Cole House in Greene County,
8 New York is listed on the National Register of His-
9 toric Places and has been designated as a National
10 Historic Landmark;

11 (4) within a 15 mile radius of the Thomas Cole
12 House, an area that forms a key part of the rich
13 cultural and natural heritage of the Hudson River
14 Valley region, significant landscapes and scenes
15 painted by Thomas Cole and other Hudson River
16 artists survive intact;

17 (5) the State of New York has established the
18 Hudson River Valley Greenway to promote the pres-
19 ervation, public use, and enjoyment of the natural
20 and cultural resources of the Hudson River Valley
21 region; and

22 (6) establishment of the Thomas Cole National
23 Historic Site will provide opportunities for the illus-
24 tration and interpretation of cultural themes of the

1 heritage of the United States and unique opportuni-
2 ties for education, public use, and enjoyment.

3 (b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are—

4 (1) to preserve and interpret the home and stu-
5 dio of Thomas Cole for the benefit, inspiration, and
6 education of the people of the United States;

7 (2) to help maintain the integrity of the setting
8 in the Hudson River Valley region that inspired ar-
9 tistic expression;

10 (3) to coordinate the interpretive, preservation,
11 and recreational efforts of Federal, State, and other
12 entities in the Hudson Valley region in order to en-
13 hance opportunities for education, public use, and
14 enjoyment; and

15 (4) to broaden understanding of the Hudson
16 River Valley region and its role in American history
17 and culture.

18 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

19 As used in this Act:

20 (1) HISTORIC SITE.—The term “historic site”
21 means the Thomas Cole National Historic Site es-
22 tablished by section 4.

23 (2) HUDSON RIVER ARTISTS.—The term “Hud-
24 son River artists” means artists who belonged to the
25 Hudson River school of landscape painting.

1 (3) PLAN.—The term “plan” means the general
 2 management plan developed pursuant to section
 3 6(d).

4 (4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
 5 the Secretary of the Interior.

6 **SEC. 4. ESTABLISHMENT OF THOMAS COLE NATIONAL HIS-**
 7 **TORIC SITE.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—There is established, as a unit of
 9 the National Park System, the Thomas Cole National His-
 10 toric Site, in the State of New York.

11 (b) DESCRIPTION.—The historic site shall consist of
 12 the home and studio of Thomas Cole, comprising approxi-
 13 mately 3.4 acres, located at 218 Spring Street, in the vil-
 14 lage of Catskill, New York, as generally depicted on the
 15 boundary map numbered TCH/80002, and dated March
 16 1992.

17 **SEC. 5. ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY.**

18 (a) REAL PROPERTY.—The Secretary is authorized
 19 to acquire lands, and interests in lands, within the bound-
 20 aries of the historic site by donation, purchase with do-
 21 nated or appropriated funds, or exchange.

22 (b) PERSONAL PROPERTY.—The Secretary may also
 23 acquire by the same methods as provided in subsection
 24 (a), personal property associated with, and appropriate
 25 for, the interpretation of the historic site: *Provided*, That

1 the Secretary may acquire works of art associated with
2 Thomas Cole and other Hudson River artists only by do-
3 nation or purchase with donated funds.

4 **SEC. 6. ADMINISTRATION OF SITE.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall administer
6 the historic site in accordance with this Act and all laws
7 generally applicable to units of the National Park System,
8 including the Act entitled “An Act To establish a National
9 Park Service, and for other purposes”, approved August
10 25, 1916 (16 U.S.C. 1, 2–4), and the Act entitled “An
11 Act to provide for the preservation of historic American
12 sites, buildings, objects, and antiquities of national signifi-
13 cance, and for other purposes”, approved August 21, 1935
14 (16 U.S.C. 461 et seq.).

15 (b) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—To further the purposes of
17 this Act, the Secretary may consult with and enter
18 into cooperative agreements with the State of New
19 York, the Thomas Cole Foundation, and other public
20 and private entities to facilitate public understand-
21 ing and enjoyment of the lives and works of the
22 Hudson River artists through the development, pres-
23 entation, and funding of art exhibits, resident artist
24 programs, and other appropriate activities related to

1 the preservation, interpretation, and use of the his-
2 toric site.

3 (2) LIBRARY AND RESEARCH CENTER.—The
4 Secretary may enter into a cooperative agreement
5 with the Greene County Historical Society to provide
6 for the establishment of a library and research cen-
7 ter at the historic site.

8 (c) EXHIBITS.—The Secretary may display, and ac-
9 cept for the purposes of display, works of art associated
10 with Thomas Cole and other Hudson River artists, as may
11 be necessary for the interpretation of the historic site.

12 (d) GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 complete
14 fiscal years after the date of enactment of this Act,
15 the Secretary shall develop a general management
16 plan for the historic site.

17 (2) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—On the com-
18 pletion of the plan, the plan shall be submitted to
19 the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of
20 the Senate and the Committee on Public Lands and
21 Resources of the House of Representatives.

22 (3) REGIONAL WAYSIDE EXHIBITS.—The plan
23 shall include recommendations for regional wayside
24 exhibits, to be carried out through cooperative agree-

1 ments with the State of New York and other public
2 and private entities.

3 (4) PREPARATION.—The plan shall be prepared
4 in accordance with section 12(b) of the Act entitled
5 “An Act to improve the administration of the na-
6 tional park system by the Secretary of the Interior,
7 and to clarify the authorities applicable to the sys-
8 tem, and for other purposes”, approved August 18,
9 1970 (16 U.S.C. 1a-1 through 1a-7).

10 **SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

11 There are authorized to be appropriated such sums
12 as are necessary to carry out this Act.

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